

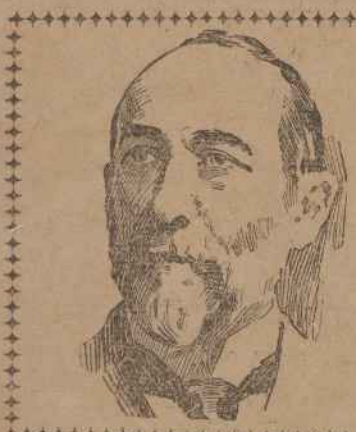
Summer Resort
Information Bureau
IS OPEN FOR THE SEASON.

Journal Office, Rooms 76, 77, 78.

N 1013. THURSDAY—Fair.

PLATT'S MEN SAY THE "L" IS ALL RIGHT.

State Railroad Commission Fails to Find Any of the Cracks and Unsafe Conditions Photographed by the Health Board Experts.



Thomas G. Platt.



Richard Croker.

"LOOK here on this picture, and on this." The New York Health Board experts having reported the Manhattan "L" structure weak and unsafe in certain specified parts, it becomes most opportune that the State Railroad Commission should be ready with its report favorable to the "L." This report states that the only thing the "L" needs is paint. Here are the two reports:

ALBANY, N. Y., May 3.—The first intimation the public has had that the State Railroad Commission was examining the structure of the Manhattan Elevated Railroads as to their safety came yesterday, when the Railroad Commission, in denying the report that the Manhattan had asked for protection from the Board of Health, stated that their engineers had been examining into the condition of the road. To-day the Commission suddenly made public the reports of their engineering experts.

President Ashley W. Cole, of the commission, said that to supplement the laudatory reports with a statement that to his mind, he having perfect confidence in his engineers, the structures were absolutely safe.

Good Quality of Iron. To illustrate this he exhibited two pieces of iron taken from the structures and said that with such wonderfully good iron in them, the structures could not help but be safe. He qualified his statements a little later by saying that certain conditions would have to be remedied to make the structure safe for all time, and that there was no need to fear of any danger for some time to come.

He was asked if this investigation had not been requested by the Manhattan as a means of protecting it from the charges of the Board of Health. "No," he replied, "not at all. The Manhattan company has not asked us to protect them from the Board of Health. Neither did it ask for this investigation."

What, then, instigated the investigation? "Well, you see," he replied, "the law compels the Railroad Commissioners to investigate the condition of all railroads in the State. It has been the practice of this Board to investigate into the condition of each road in the State once in two years. If possible. The structure of the Manhattan elevated was last examined in 1896, so we got around to investigate them again this year. This investigation was begun in January."

Charles H. Barnes, the electrical engineer attached to the commission, and J. D. Schultz, the commission's civil engineer, carried on the examination of the structure. Mr. Barnes examined the structure to ascertain if there were any defects in the structure. He made no tests. He describes in technical detail how he made the tests and the technical results he obtained.

Everything Perfect. He concludes as follows:

"After examination, I find that there has been no serious damage caused by electrolysis to the structure of the company. To prevent damage to the supporting columns of this structure in the future I make the following recommendation: That the company immediately put their structure in such condition that at no point will it be positive to other conductors in the ground more than one volt, and that this condition be maintained."

To Mr. Schultz was given the task of examining the strength of the structure. Although Mr. Barnes began his investigation on January 22, Mr. Schultz did not begin his until March 14, and finished it on April 13. According to his report during this time he walked over and on top of the structures of the entire system. His report is voluminous and gives into a detailed description of how the various structures are constructed.

As a result of his investigation he says in part: "No weak or defective foundations were discovered. The columns used are of various kinds, but all of them are of standard strength and no defects affecting their safety were discovered."

He found only one loose column, and that had moved but a sixteenth of an inch. By way of criticism he finds only that a large portion of the structure needs painting, although it is not in as bad condition on that account as appearances would indicate.

MRS. GEORGE AND HER RIVAL ON THE SAME TRAIN.

The Women Decried by the Murdered Saxton Were Unintentional Traveling Companions.

Canton, O., May 3.—Mrs. Eva D. Alt-house, the rival of Mrs. Annie E. George, in the affections of the late George D. Saxton, arrived in this city this morning on the same train which bore Mrs. George back to the scene of her troubles. Mrs. George left the car at the station; Mrs. Alt-house, when the train stopped at the C. & S. crossing, stepped off hurriedly, and went up Tuscarawas street to the home of her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Best, Mrs. Alt-house declined to be seen. Mrs. George is still at the Conrad Hotel. She has had numerous callers. A lecture is being prepared by her and those interested in her, and she will publish a book to be sold at the lectures.

An Expression of German Good Will. Berlin, May 3.—The Tagblatt, commenting upon news of the American Government's pleasant reception of the German Insurance Commission, says: "We hope that other political-commercial differences between Germany and the United States will also be regulated in the same conciliatory spirit."

NEW YORK JOURNAL

AND ADVERTISER

Copyright, 1899. By New York Journal and Advertiser.—NEW YORK, MAY 4, 1899.—16 PAGES. THURSDAY—Fair.

7811 "Want" Ads. (Closed Last Week) Over Same Week Last.

ONLY
The Journal
prints All the
AUCTION
SALES.
Advertised on
PAGE 13.

AUCTION
SALES

PRICE ONE CENT In Greater New York; Elsewhere, and Jersey City, TWO CENTS.

TEACHER STRICKEN WITH SMALLPOX IN SCHOOL.

Miss Parker, of Brooklyn Grammar School No. 40, Taken Ill in a Room Where There Were 500 Pupils.

Her Parents, Not Knowing the Nature of Her Malady, Failed to Call a Physician Until Five Days Afterward.

The Patient Will Be Removed to North Brother Island To-day—None of the Pupils Show Symptoms of Disease.

Miss Sadie Parker, a teacher in Grammar School No. 40, at Fifteenth street and Fourth avenue, South Brooklyn, was found to be suffering from a mild attack of small pox yesterday and this morning she will be sent to North Brother Island.

She was taken ill last Friday afternoon, just before the closing hour at the school and went at once to her home, No. 720 Flatbush avenue. Her parents, who are well-to-do, thought she was suffering merely from influenza and no physician was called in till yesterday.

Then Dr. Belle Aldridge, of No. 26 Clark street, was summoned. She at once diagnosed the case as small pox in a mild form. Dr. Aldridge notified the Board of Health and the Flatbush avenue residence was quarantined.

Five hundred pupils attend the Fifteenth Street Grammar School. All the pupils were well yesterday and not one absentee was reported on the rolls. F. A. Jewett, Chief Inspector of Compulsory Diseases, admitted last night that Miss Parker was suffering from small pox, but what action the Health Board might take other than sending the patient to North Brother Island he refused to say. He would not say whether the Fifteenth Street Grammar School would be closed.

Given in fact, the Miss Parker had been ill five days yesterday and none of the pupils had reported ill in that time. It is reported that Miss Parker is a widow, and Miss Parker is twenty-three years old and one of the most popular teachers in the school.

W. K. VANDERBILT, JR., AND BRIDE TO BE HERE TO-DAY.

They Close "Belvoir" and Leave Newport for a Week's Gayety in New York Society.

Newport, R. I., May 3.—Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., have closed "Belvoir" for a week and gone to New York. They left on the boat to-night. It is understood that the visit is occasioned by a series of social events arranged in their honor. They took a dozen trunks with them.

The report in a New York newspaper to-day that Mr. Vanderbilt was seriously and hand injured by a dog bite is without foundation.

PEACE CONGRESS DELEGATES SAIL FOR THE HAGUE.

Columbia College Boys Through the Pier and Cheer Seth Low as the St. Louis Leaves.

President Seth Low, of Columbia College, Captain A. F. Mahan, of the United States Navy, and Frederick W. Hodge, American delegates chosen by President McKinley to attend the Disarmament (or Peace) Congress of the Caar, sailed yesterday on the American liner St. Louis. On arrival at Southampton they will proceed to The Hague, where the Congress is to be held this month.

Mrs. Low accompanied her husband, who was made the subject of an ovation by the Columbia College boys, who thronged the pier and drowned all other sounds by their cries of "Rah! Rah! C-O-L-U-M-B-I-A!" Captain Mahan, before the vessel left, said the main object of the American delegation was to get the other nations' representatives to agree to a convention to prohibit the use of privateers and exempt from seizure merchant vessels not carrying contraband of war.

CLEVELAND WANTS A JOB, HIS FRIENDS SAY.

Acceptable to the Former President Hint That a Salary Will Be Very Good for Good Reasons.

Washington, May 3.—Friends of Former President Cleveland here say his acceptance of the presidency of a New York trust company is very probable, and that he is anxious to secure employment for financial reasons. Mr. Cleveland's wealth, which has been greatly exaggerated, amounts to about \$200,000, and is largely represented by his residences at Buzzard's Bay and at Princeton. The former President is looking around for a job, say his friends.

GHOST OF NO. 1 HAUNTS NO. 2.

Mrs. Rivenburg's Novel Grounds for Separation Suit.

Albany, May 3.—Miss Rivenburg's second wife has sued him for a divorce, and Judge George Addington is taking testimony as referee. Mrs. Rivenburg alleges that her husband's first wife, who followed her around the house and makes life miserable for her.

Captains in 174th Regiment Resign. Last night was headquarters night at the Forty-seventh Regiment armory, Marcy avenue and Lynch street, Westchester. All the officers were present. Captain E. J. Conroy, of Company D, and George Butler, of Co. F, tendered their resignations. They said that their business prevented them giving their attention to the regiment, and they could not remain.

J. NEALE PLUMB, CAPITALIST, KILLS ALEXANDER MASTERTON, THE MILLIONAIRE BANKER

Slayer Prepares in Advance an Elaborate Statement of His Reasons for Doing Murder.

Litigation-Crazed Lunatic's Imaginings Was the Cause of This Dreadful Crime.

Shooting Down Trustee of His Children's Fortune, Who Sued Him for Appropriating Part of It.

J. Neale Plumb, an elderly capitalist, shot and killed Alexander Masterton, the septuagenarian millionaire and banker, yesterday at the Burlington apartment house, in Thirtieth street.

Plumb had regarded Mr. Masterton as his enemy for thirty-five years. He told the reasons for his crime in two elaborate written statements prepared in advance. One of these would make a fair-sized volume.

Mr. Masterton was the trustee of the large fortune that descended to Plumb's children from their maternal grandfather, Abraham Ives. There was trouble between Plumb and his children, and on their behalf Masterton sued the father for \$50,000, which he was alleged to have diverted from the trust fund. Plumb won the suit about a year ago, but his enmity to Masterton did not decrease. Plumb's statements are highly sensational documents, the details of which bear on their face the evidence of falsity.

Plumb himself announced his crime and surrendered to the police immediately. As he was arrested he produced the written statements prepared for the press from a calmer.

He spoke crazily on his way to the police station, but after that was calm and lucid as a man could be.

THE CRAZY DOCUMENT WRITTEN BY THE MURDERER

Wild and Evidently False Statements About His Children and Prominent Men Here and in England.

Following is the document handed out by the murderer shortly after he committed the crime. His accusations and statements all bear the stamp of falsity, and were evidently written by an insane man or by one who did not realize that his accusations were self-contradictory. It is impossible to read them and believe that Plumb was other than the victim of his own angry imaginings:

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

WHY J. NEALE PLUMB SHOT ALEXANDER MASTERTON. The reason for taking this serious step was that for upward of thirty-five years, commencing as far back as 1862, at the time of my marriage engagement, this man has followed me like a sixth headed monster from that time to this, and yet I was never able to discover cause or motive of his vindictive animosity toward me, as when he commenced to attack me I had never seen the man nor ever heard of him.

Again, in 1885, on my return to New York from California, after three years' absence, he at once renewed his intrigues against me in my family and in public society, to do me all the injury in his power, socially and financially.

And all during those years, down to 1876, this man was constantly plotting and conspiring against me, endeavoring to undermine my wife's confidence in me by mean and covert insinuations, and endeavoring in every way to alienate the affections of my wife and children; and he had a powerful influence, being the trustee of my wife's large estate.

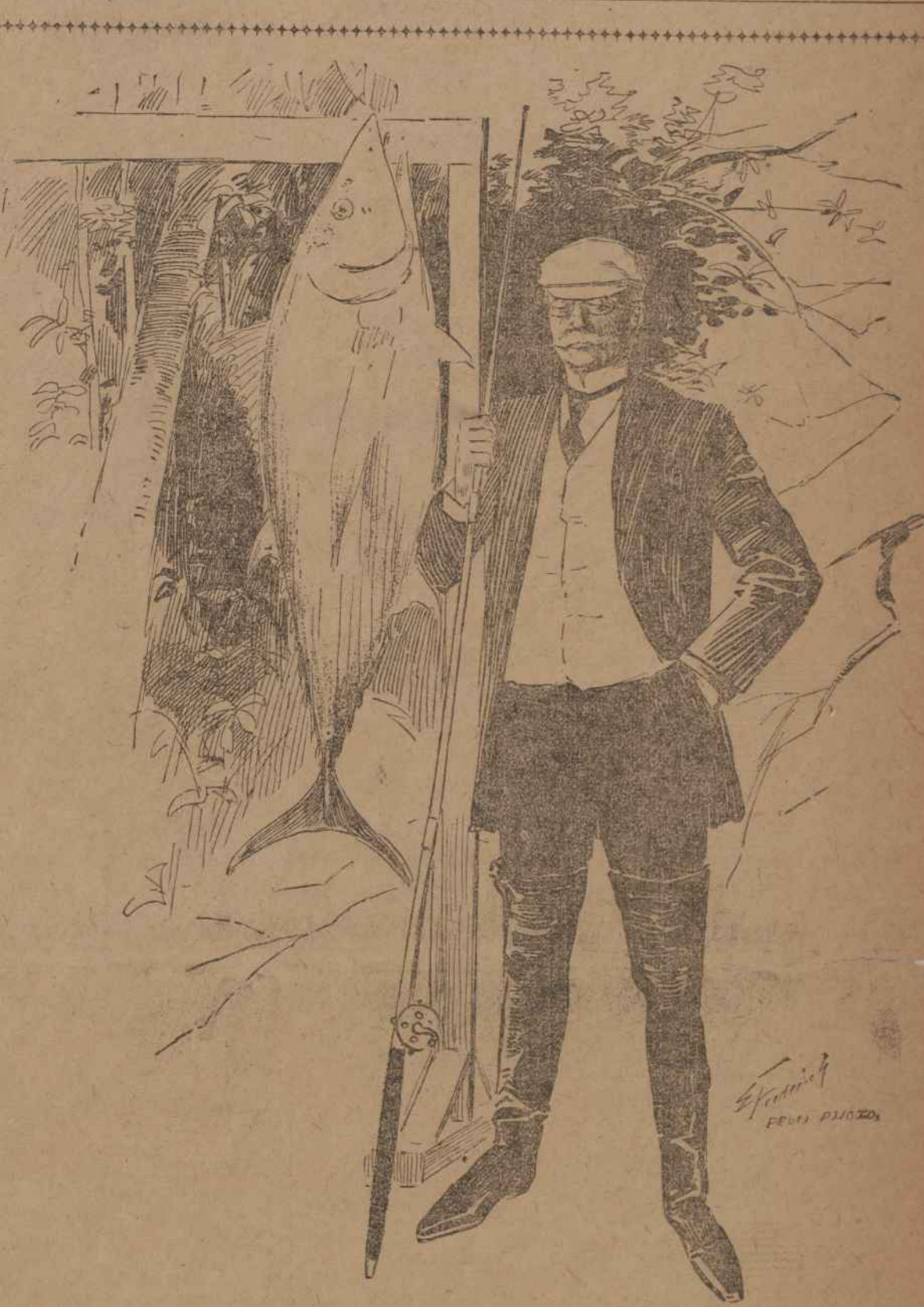
As it was impossible to have any peace or happiness where this man was, at the earnest solicitation of my wife I leased our Fifth avenue residence to the late Robert L. Hargous, Esq., for a long term of years and sailed for Europe with my wife, son and two daughters and servants, in November, 1876, intending to make our permanent home abroad.

On February 6, 1877, Mrs. Plumb died suddenly in Paris of heart disease, and in the following May I returned to New York with my children and went at once to our country home, Deer Range, Litch, Long Island, to make it our permanent home.

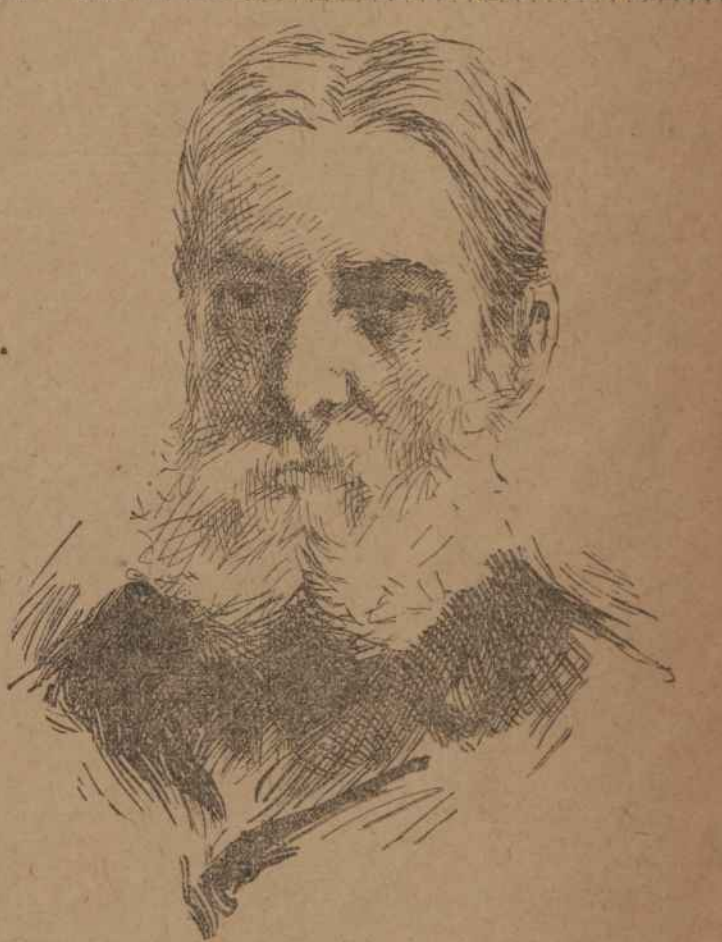
From that time down to 1883 this man was constantly lurking with the servants in the house and interfering in my family affairs. In this year it was discovered by a guest in my house, the late Hon. Winchester Britton, that Masterton was having clandestine interviews and correspondence with a French governess in my employ, the object of which conspiracy was apparently to alienate my daughters and poison their minds against their father and brothers.

From the correspondence found in her trunk it was discovered that this governess, Marie Withler, had been in the pay of Masterton, and besides money, also gifts of jewelry, a watch, etc., for nearly six years, during which time she was sending him detailed reports of everything that had transpired at Deer Range, visitors, conversations, etc., down to this minute detail.

After intercepting several letters between these parties I confronted her with her disloyalty and treachery, and on discharging her she went direct to Mr. Mas-



J. N. PLUMB, MURDERER OF MASTERTON.
(From photographs taken at Catalina Island, where he spent the season of 1895 sea fishing.)



Alexander Masterton, the Murdered Banker.

terton's residence in Bronxville, and thereupon I sent him a letter, pointing out his treachery and dishonesty of purpose, denouncing him as a casual and dishonest man, and severed all social, business and financial relations with him, except through counsel.

The next conspiracy of Alexander Masterton against me was in 1885, known as "The Washington Conspiracy," by my friends in New York and Washington, where my daughters were visiting their godmother, Mrs. Richard F. Drum, at her residence, No. 1615 K street, the object of which was to induce her to join against her father in proceedings then pending in court, and to prevent him superseding Masterton as guardian. My eldest daughter, Miss Elsie, in my absence and of her own volition, set an ingenious trap to catch Masterton and the two lawyers concerned